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The small water-bath, for imbedding minute objects under the microscope, has two openings, each of which is connected with a caoutchouc tube about 50 cm. long. The bath is filled by placing one of these tubes in a basin of water and sucking through the other. When the bath is full, the second tube is placed with the first in the basin of water, and the bath is heated on the table (F) or in the air-bath ( $x$ ), the burner being used, eventually, to aid in bringing the temperature to the point desired. The watch-glass or other glass dish containing the object in melted paraffine is next placed on the bath, with a slip of white or colored paper, according to need, beneath it; and the orientation of the object is then undertaken with the greatest ease. This accomplished, one of the caoutchouc tubes (the lower) is removed from the basin of water and allowed to hang over the corner of the work-table; the hot water is thus drained off and replaced with cold, so that the paraffine cools quickly without the least disturbance of the object.

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## SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

—The “Circolo degle Aspiranti Naturalisti” of Naples will hereafter be known as the “Societa dei Naturalisti.” With this change in name they begin the publication of a bulletin.

—Dr. Pierre, after many years of labor, has completed his work on the Flora of Cochín China. In recognition of this fact the government of the province has granted him a life pension of six thousand francs.

—Dr. W. Zoff has been appointed ordinary professor of botany in the University of Halle.

—Dr. G. Berthold accepts the position of ordinary professor of botany at Göttingen.

—Dr. Karl Brandt, of Königsberg, becomes interim director of the Zoological Institute of the University of Kiel.

—Dr. E. Korschelt, of Freiburg, has been appointed assistant in the Zoological Institute of the University of Berlin.

—In the January number of the *AMERICAN NATURALIST* we noted the death of Edgar von Harold, one of the authors of the valuable “*Catalogus Coleopterorum*.” Dr. Max Gemminger, his associate in that laborious undertaking, has since died. For many years he had held the position of conservator of the Zoological Museum at Munich.

—Edward T. Hardman, a member of the Geological Survey of Ireland, died in Dublin, April 30. In 1883–86 he travelled extensively in West Australia, and added not a little to our knowledge of the geological features of that region.

—Dr. John Frenzel, of Berlin, sailed July 20 to take the position of professor of zoology and director of the museum in Cordova, Argentine Republic.

—The late Richard Cranch Greenleaf, who died recently in Boston, bequeathed his microscopical library, microscopes, and apparatus to the Boston Society of Natural History.

—The Liverpool marine biological committee has enlarged the field of its operations. The sewage in the neighborhood of the city rendering the study of the fauna and flora a matter of some difficulty, they have, therefore, built a laboratory on Puffin Island, an uninhabited island near Anglesea. The building contains seven rooms and is well adapted for its purposes.

—Mr. James C. Pilling, of the Bureau of Ethnology, has for some time been collecting materials for a bibliography of North American Linguistics. He has now nearly completed the portion relating to the Eskimo languages, and this will be published as a bulletin by the Bureau.

—William Boott, who died in Boston May 16, 1887, was born in that city June 15, 1805. Like his brother, the late Francis Boott, he was a botanist, and devoted himself to the difficult groups of grasses and sedges. His botanical collections go to the herbarium of Harvard University.

—The translation of Reiss and Steubel's "Necropolis of Ancon, Peru," is now completed, and makes three volumes, illustrated by one hundred and forty-one colored folio plates. A separate volume, complete in itself, is now in preparation.

—W. L. Sclater, of Oxford, England, has been appointed deputy superintendent of the Indian Museum in Calcutta, thus filling the place left vacant by the promotion of Mr. J. Wood-Mason to the superintendency.

—Mr. James E. Humphrey, assistant in the botanical laboratory of Harvard University, has been appointed instructor in botany in Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.

—RECENT DEATHS.—Henri Brisout de Barneville, entomologist, at St. Germain-en-Laye, January 23; Thomas Wilson, entomologist, at York, England, April 17; John Gatcombe, ornithologist, at Plymouth, England, April 28, aged sixty-seven; John Hellins, student of British Lepidoptera, at Exeter, England, May 9, aged fifty-eight; Sir Walter Elliot, of London, a student of the Mammalia of India; F. A. Vulpian, physiologist, and secretary of the Academy of Sciences of Paris, May 17, aged sixty-one years; Professor Moritz Wagner, of Munich, a zoological traveller and writer upon evolution, May 31, aged seventy-three years; Robert Gray, the well-known ornithologist of Edinburgh, February 18; Professor Bernard Studer, geologist, at Bern, Switzerland, May 2, aged ninety-three.